

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01
/069 W

-----061415Z 091818 /43

R 061320Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3141

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CONFIDENTIAL MONROVIA 0121

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LI, CH

SUBJECT: GOL MISSION TO PEKING

1. FONMIN DENNIS, ACTING UNDER "INSTRUCTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT", CALLED AMBASSADOR TO MINISTRY THIS A.M. TO ADVISE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA IS SENDING A "GOOD WILL MISSION" TO PEKING WHICH WAS DUE TO DEPART MONROVIA THIS MORNING, 6 JAN.

2. THE DELEGATION IS HEADED BY A. B. TOLBERT, CHAIRMAN OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND INCLUDES REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE POLITICAL PARTY AND SELECTED MINISTRIES.

3. ACCORDING TO THE FONMIN, THE MISSION WILL EXPLORE WAYS IN WHICH FRIENDLY RELATIONS CAN BE DEVELOPED BETWEEN PEKING AND GOL TOWARD THE "ESTABLISHMENT OF EARLY DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS."

4. DENNIS SAID IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE CHINESE WILL
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RECIPROCAT WITH A SIMILAR MISSION TO LIBERIA LATER THIS YEAR AT WHICH TIME FORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WILL PROBABLY BE ESTABLISHED. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE ONGOING TRADE AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS PRESENTLY BEING CARRIED OUT BY TAIWAN WOULD BE CONTINUED EITHER UNDER PEKING AUSPICES OR BY ALLOWING INDIVIDUAL TAIWANESE TO CONCLUDE THEIR CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS.

5. FONMIN EMPHASIZED THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WOULD NOT BE ESTABLISHED AT THIS TIME. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, HE SAID THAT THE RESIDENT REPUBLIC OF CHINA AMBASSADOR WAS NOT BEING INFORMED, THAT HE WOULD LEARN OF DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PUBLIC CHANNELS. DENNIS SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT WISHED TO INFORM WASHINGTON BECAUSE OF THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS WHICH EXIST BETWEEN THE GOL AND USG.

6. FONMIN ASKED IF THE EMBASSY HAD ANY CONFIRMATION THAT THE NATIONALIST CHINESE HAD RECOGNIZED THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN STATE OF THE TRANSKEI. DENNIS SAYS HE BELIEVES HE HAS SEEN SUCH A REPORT. HE ASKED FURTHER IF WE WOULD INFORM HIM OF OTHER COUNTRIES WITH WHICH TAIWAN STILL MAINTAINS RELATIONS IN AFRICA.

7. COMMENT. THE FONMIN INTIMATED THAT THE DISCUSSIONS LEADING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MISSION BEGAN DURING THE OAU DINSHASA MEETING IN DECEMBER. THE PARTY HAS APPARENTLY OBTAINED VISAS FROM THE PARIS OFFICE OF PEKING AND WILL BE TRANSITTING THAT CITY.

8. MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION ARE:

G. FLAMA SHERMAN, FORMER AMBASSADOR OF LIBERIA;
DR. AUGUSTUS F. CAINE, DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION, AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL OF
THE TRUE WHIG PARTY OF LIBERIA;
ANSUMANA COOPER, ASSISTANT MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR
AFRICAN AND ASIAN AFFAIRS;
PHILIP BOWEN, ASSISTANT MINISTER OF FINANCE;
MILLS JONES, ASSISTANT MINISTER OF STATE FOR PRESIDENTIAL
AFFAIRS;
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LAMI KAWAH, SENIOR ECONOMIST, MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC
AFFAIRS;
IBRAHIM SHEIFF, DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN TRADE, MINISTRY OF
COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND TRANSPORTATION;
JOSHUA COOPER, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PLANNING, MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE;
MISS FANNIE BROWNELL, RESEARCH OFFICER, MINISTRY OF STATE
FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS;
T. LEO YATES, LIAISON OFFICER;
ADOLPHUS DAVID, SECRETARY.
CARTER

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